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PA 3/5/03

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 049390-5001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Takaaki TERASHITA)
Application No. 09/263,842)
Filed: March 8, 1999)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND)
IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS)

RECEIVED

MAR 04 2003

Group Art Unit: 2607 Technology Center 2600

Examiner: Dorothy Wu

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or another action that closes prosecution in the above-referenced application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 as specified by § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-0310, for this Information Disclosure Statement under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. The documents listed on the accompanying

I-WA/1920713.1

PTO-1449 are as follows:

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Sho 60-20993: the relevance of this document can be understood from the attached English Abstract and from the discussion beginning at page 2 of the specification.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 3-198484: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion beginning at page 2 of the specification. A corresponding U.S. Patent No. 5,144,445 is being filed concurrently herewith.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 7-75006: the relevance of this document can be understood from the attached English Abstract and from the discussion beginning at page 2 of the specification.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Sho 56-87044: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion beginning at page 2 of the specification. A corresponding U.K. Patent Application No. GB 2067043 is being filed concurrently herewith.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 6-152962: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion at pages 2 and 4 of the specification. A corresponding U.S. Patent No. 5,323,241 is being filed concurrently herewith.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Sho 60-14570: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion beginning at page 3 of the specification. A corresponding U.S. Patent No. 4,841,362 is being filed concurrently herewith.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 9-121361: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion beginning at page 5 of the specification. A corresponding U.S. Patent No. 5,812,286 is being filed concurrently herewith.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 9-238257: the relevance of this document can be understood from the attached English Abstract and from the discussion beginning at page 5 of the specification.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Sho 52-156624: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion beginning at page 23 of the specification. A corresponding U.S. Patent No. 4,203,671 is being filed concurrently herewith.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 4-346332: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion beginning at page 23 of the specification. A corresponding U.S. Patent No. 5,278,921 is being filed concurrently herewith.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 8-122944: the relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion beginning at page 23 of the specification. A corresponding U.S. Patent No. 5,629,752 is being filed concurrently herewith.

U.K. Patent Application No. GB 2067043: this foreign patent application corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Sho 56-87044 filed concurrently herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 5,144,445 to Higashitsutumi: this U.S. Patent corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 3-198484 filed concurrently herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 5,323,241 to Yonezawa: this U.S. Patent corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 6-152962 filed concurrently herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 4,841,362 to Urabe et al.: this U.S. Patent corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Sho 60-14570 filed concurrently herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 5,812,286 to Lin: this U.S. Patent corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 9-121361 filed concurrently herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 4,203,671 to Takahashi et al.: this U.S. Patent corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Sho 52-156624 filed concurrently herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 5,278,921 to Nakamura et al.: this U.S. Patent corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 4-346332 filed concurrently herewith.

U.S. Patent No. 5,629,752 to Kinjo: this U.S. Patent corresponds to above-referenced Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 8-122944 filed concurrently herewith.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of these documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

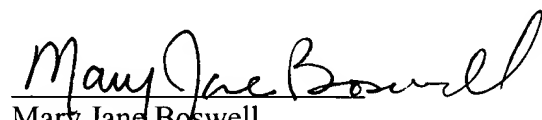
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: February 27, 2003

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